



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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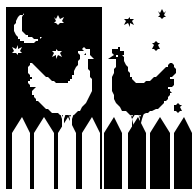
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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was slow to fair, which is not unusual for mid-week; however, food service was better, fair to good, particularly where fast food specials were active. Supplies varied, but were overall sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were at least adequate and continued to lack interest. Dark meat items and wings were close balanced to tight with good movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, mostly desirable to heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 62.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.25 cents last year on the 19th of April, 2000.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

ITEM	
BREASTS - B/S	138.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	96.00
LEG QUARTERS	27.00
WINGS	101.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 04/14/01	2001	2000
EGGS SET	184,315	187,448
CHICKS PLACED	149,001	147,705
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		-02
		+01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 184 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 14, 2001. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 149 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 14, 2001. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through April 14, 2001 were 2.18 billion, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 26-May-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 154.2 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 154.8 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 157.2 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 160.8 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 55.62 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings fully adequate overall. Weights trended heavy. Retail demand fairly good overall, best to cover features. Floor stocks generally adequate. Trade sentiment fully steady on dark meat items and wings, breasts generally steady.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was fair at best with fast food promotions receiving most interest. Supplies were usually sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, dark meat items were tight to balanced and moving strong at confident levels. Wings also had good movement with supplies short, and breast items were at least sufficient, but in a more balanced position. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Trade sentiment steady. Offerings were adequate except 2.25 pound birds were short of needs. Retail demand was fairly light. Retail feature in progress in Chicago on boneless skinless breasts at \$1.28 with restrictions, and drums or thighs at 99 cents. Food service was light to moderate, occasionally good where fast food promotions were in effect. Floor stocks were satisfactory and weights were desirable to heavy. Parts trading was light, however wings were sought. The trade sentiment was firm on wings, steady on the balance.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly fair and noted as typical of midweek trading. Supplies of all sizes were generally adequate, however, the 2.5 pound birds were often noted as slightly more available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was limited. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts were more than sufficient and occasionally discounted to clear product. Bone-in breasts were at least adequate. Wings were no more than adequate to instances tight. Legs and leg quarters remained well cleared.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was slow to fair and typical of normal mid-week activity. Seller offerings differed by both volume and size, and were fully sufficient for current inquiry. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 53 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, wings continued to clear well. Leg items were in good balance to closely cleared. Bone-in and particularly, boneless skinless breasts were at least adequate for prompt shipment.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	52-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.58
NO. OF BOXES	10,537

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

APRIL 17, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 18, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	813	120.00-205.00	140-145	140.62	BREAST - B/S	776	120.00-205.00	140-145	140.94
TENDERLOINS	144	145.00-230.00	145-150	160.42	TENDERLOINS	160	145.00-230.00	145-150	155.63
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	70.00-75.00	71-73	72.15	BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	126	37.00-44.00	38-40	38.60	LEGS	126	37.00-44.00	38-40	38.29
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	441	25.00-26.50	25-26	25.32	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	322	25.00-28.00	-	25.20
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,560	24.00-29.00	27-28	27.36	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,540	26.00-29.00	27-28	27.52
WINGS (WHOLE)	310	98.00-102.00	98-100	99.79	WINGS (WHOLE)	274	95.00-100.00	98-99	99.40
WINGS (CUT)	564	112.00-123.00	113-115	115.12	WINGS (CUT)	663	113.00-124.00	113-115	116.40
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	46	37.00-44.00	-	37.91	THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	56	90.00-93.50	-	92.61	B/S THIGHS	86	88.00-94.00	-	90.98

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
50.00 - 52.75	51.16	50.50 - 54.00	51.67	51.22

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was mostly fair to moderate at best, and was generally noted as typical of midweek trading activity. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were available, although, slight discounting was occasionally noted to stimulate movement. Bone-in breasts were generally sufficient. Wings were no more than adequate to closely balanced. Legs and leg quarters continued to clear well. Retail and distributive draw was about fair, however, some dealers were reporting better than anticipated consumer interest this week. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on wings, steady to fully steady on dark meat cuts, about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

APRIL 17, 2001

APRIL 18, 2001

CURRENT NEG				WTD	CURRENT NEG				WTD
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	
BREAST - B/S	125-130	130.95	543,960		BREAST - B/S	125-130	132.36	435,240	
TENDERLOINS	135-140	143.47	128,440		TENDERLOINS	135-140	143.73	65,840	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	64-65	70.46	255,200		BREAST - WITH RIBS	64-65	72.46	208,440	
BREAST - LINE RUN	64	66.16	192,600		BREAST - LINE RUN	64	66.77	156,600	
LEGS	36-37	40.17	323,160		LEGS	36-37	40.60	178,520	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	26-27	27.65	500,705		LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	26-27	27.41	380,261	
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	38.49	156,880		DRUMSTICKS	32-33	39.52	109,180	
THIGHS	33-34	38.32	106,900		THIGHS	33-34	38.70	96,820	
B/S THIGHS	87-88	90.88	51,630		B/S THIGHS	87-88	91.39	43,006	
WINGS (WHOLE)	94-95	101.87	283,860		WINGS (WHOLE)	95-96	102.62	275,240	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	76,200		BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.03	70,080	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.94	70,965		LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.41	68,920	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	54.00	100,560		GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	54.65	87,440	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	AVG				AVG			
	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	WTS	ACTUAL	WTS	ACTUAL	WTS	ACTUAL
ALA	3,817	3,889	3,735	2,774	5.06	4.61	3,198	5.16
ARK	5,255	5,287	5,141	4,593	4.92	4.57	4,784	4.88
DELMARVA	2,323	2,337	1,224	1,869	5.03	4.81	2,142	5.15
KY-LA-TN	1,878	1,961	1,804	1,737	4.51	4.43	1,839	4.60
MISS	2,636	2,655	2,643	2,290	5.11	4.84	2,436	5.08
NC	2,488	2,574	1,882	1,935	5.95	5.67	2,497	5.95
TEXAS	2,305	2,305	2,280	2,321	4.92	4.77	2,217	4.90
TOTAL	20,702	21,008	18,709	17,519	5.05	4.77	19,113	5.09
MON-WED 60,719(A)	58,941(A)							

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 18-Apr 01 and is estimated to be 30,973,000 down 0.64 percent from a week ago and up 1.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,527,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	83-85
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	89-94
	DRY PACK	102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-117
	DRY PACK	123
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-117
	DRY PACK	123
DUCKS		152-170

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 21-01

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/21/01 (1)	04/14/01
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	149,495 (2)	151,488
LT HENS	1,780	1,618
HVY HENS	1,533	1,559
CHECK TOTAL	152,808	154,665

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 21-Apr-01 is 153.5 million head compared to 148.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 149.8 million head or 3.7 million less than estimated available. For week of 28-Apr-01 the estimated available is 156.2 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 16-Apr-01	130,830	66,264
AM 1-Apr-01	116,507	62,425
CHG	14,323	3,839
PCT CHG	12	6

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/16/01	04/09/01	04/17/00	04/16/01	04/09/01	04/17/00
PACIFIC						
COAST	15,154	15,073	15,340	5,895	5,829	14,553
LOS						
ANGELES	152	140	152	2,847	2,742	5,260

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 04/17/01

	LOW HIGH AVG				LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.80	1.35	1.05	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	1.30	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	4.75	7.25	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	2.00	-	BANTAMS ea.	3.75	5.00	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.40	2.10	-
PULLETS lb.	-	1.55	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	4.00	6.50	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.10	1.50	1.33	ROOSTERS ea.	2.00	6.25	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	6.25	14.50	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.65	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	22.00	-
DUCKS lb.	1.55	1.65	-	DUCKS ea.	7.50	10.00	-
RABBITS lb.	.50	2.50	1.26	RABBITS ea.	-	2.25	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.50	5.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.00	8.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.25	3.25	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	3.25	3.50	-
SILKIES ea.	-	10.50	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	10.00	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	.50	3.00	-				

TOTAL COOPS 90

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF APRIL 16, 2001

		<u>RANGE</u>
<u>HENS</u>	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	56-60
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	59-67

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

REPORT UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

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